

Feb 18, 1865

The occupation of Columbia, S.C. by Sherman compelled the abandonment of Charleston by the Confederates. Efforts were made to collect a force which would be able to resist the Union Army, but in view of the steadily advancing host, they seem to have ~~been~~ been puny and at any rate were of no avail.

In Charleston - much Property was

destroyed, but it was the Confederates who,  
through accident or design were the agents  
of destruction. Federal troops on entering  
the city found public buildings, stores,  
warehouses, school houses, private  
dwellings and cotton a fire